

## Comparison of SIPP, CPS, and PSID

| Feature   | Survey of Income and Program Participation  | CPS (March Income Supplement)  | Panel Study of Income Dynamics  |
|---|---|--|---|
| Sample size and design                              | 1996 Panel: 40,188 households; new panel periodically; each original-sample adult in panel for no. of months in survey; interviews every 4 months   | 50,000 households; each household in sample for 8 months over 2-year period; rotation group design; monthly interviews (income supplement once per year) | 9,000 families; over-represents low-income families; continuing panel with annual interviews                          |
| Sample designed to be representative within states? | No  | Yes  | No  |
| Income data   | Data for about 70 cash and in-kind <i>Sources</i> at each 4-month wave, with monthly reporting for most <i>Sources</i>  | Data for prior calendar year for about 35 cash and in-kind <i>Sources</i>  | Data for prior calendar year for about 25 cash and in-kind <i>Sources</i> with specific months received               |
| Tax data  | Information to determine federal, state, and local income taxes; payroll taxes; property taxes  | None   | Information to determine federal, state, and local income taxes; payroll taxes; property taxes                        |
| Asset-holdings data                                 | Detailed inventory of real and financial assets and liabilities once each year for panels from 1996 forward and at least once per panel in prior years; more frequent measures for assets relevant for assistance programs              | None, except home ownership  | Regularly, information about home value and mortgage debt; occasionally, information about saving behavior and wealth |
| Expenditure data                                    | Information at least once each panel before 1996 and once a year 1996 and beyond on previous month's out-of-pocket medical care costs, shelter costs (mortgage or rent and utilities), dependent care costs, and child support payments | None   | Monthly rent or mortgage costs; annual utility costs; average weekly food costs; child support payments               |

*Note:* SIPP sample size and design information valid for the 1996 Panel. For information about pre-1996 SIPP panels, see Chapter 2 in the *SIPP Users' Guide*.

*Source:* Citro, C.F., Michael, R.T., and Maritano, N. (eds.) (1995). *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press, Appendix B.